

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Dick G0BPS <Dick@deomon.co.uk>
Subject: [2455] ARCI membership for DX members
Message-ID: <XxqZdDA80T7wEwQP@DEMON.CO.UK>

Hi Gang,

As Chuck recently mailed, I handle the DX membership of the ARCI.
I cannot take checks etc payable to the ARCI. I can only handle
checks drawn on an UK bank in pounds sterling. Or, of course \$\$
bills. Checks should be made payable th the G-QRP club ONLY!

I collate the applications and send them to Mike once a month.

Happy new year... TTFN de Dick

--

Dick G0BPS

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: ruswhite@netwest.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [2446] ARRL RTTY Roundup
Message-ID: <199601070354.UAA15856@saguaro.netwest.com>

	utc	est	cst	mst	pst
starts Sat. 6	1800	1300	1200	1100	1000
		1 PM	noon	11 am	10 am
ends Sun 7	2400	1900	1800	1700	1600
		7 pm	6 pm	5 pm	4 pm

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|*****|
| Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG) QRP-ARCI NORCAL NEQRP |
| Phoenix AZ |
| QRP-L #179 |
|*****|
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From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: "'AB7HI' Stephen Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>
Subject: [2452] Contacts but no clubs
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91j.960106213921.145206C-100000@homer28.u.washington.edu>

Heard some very weak digital stations near 7.040MHz this morning.
Was trying to catch some activity from the various QRP clubs.
Had a QRO SSB station sitting on 7.042MHz; JA2BAY from Yokohama,
Japan. Tuned to 3.561MHz and QSO'd with Bill, N7MFB/QRP, from Bay
Center, WA., for a while. Then tried 7.040 again and connected with
Paul, KC7MAF/QRP, over in Bend, OR. Went to 30 meters and W6BKY,
Dick, from Ventura, CA., answered my CQ's. We had a good rag chew.
Went back to 40 meters where the band seemed dead except for those
weak digital signals. Finally called it a day at 20:00 UTC.

In retrospect, the QRP paths were short but there were contacts
to be made. The QRO paths on 40 meters have been quite long as of
late; Florida, Cuba, Japan, Alaska...mostly on the grey line in the
wee hours (10:30 UTC in Seattle). For SKN I turned out the lights
and fired up the Heathkit SB-101. BTW...my first contact for 1996
was Ron, WL7ZN, up there in Douglas, AK. I was on the straight key...
and it was good :)

73 to all,
Stephen Lee, AB7HI
slee@u.washington.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Myron China <chim@gwl.com>
Subject: [2477] license upgrade (fox hunt)
Message-ID: <199601080120.AA00643@gp-sparc56.gwl.com>

as a new year's resolution, i finally took the test for general this saturday
and passed with perfect copy on the code (the arrl 13 wpm tapes are harder!).
so now i can join in the fox hunt with the rest of the crowd on 7040.
i want to publicly acknowledge chuck adams K5F0 for all of his encouragement
and efforts to get us tech+ and novices to upgrade. without him and the fox hunt
i doubt i would have gotten this far. also thanks to rich high W0HEP and the
rest of the elmers in the colorado qrp club. great bunch of folks.

now, on to the advanced test...

73,
myron

Myron China (KB0LMQ/AG) chim@gwl.com
ISIS Oracle Database Administrator Ph:(303)689-3981
Great-West Life Assurance Co. Fax:(303)689-4850
Englewood, CO

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: cmassey@onramp.net (Cleve Massey)
Subject: [2449] NOTICE KIT MAKERS
Message-ID: <v02130400ad1508e7321b@[199.1.11.233]>

Hey you guys how about a kit for 6 meters.

I just bet a NN1G or OHR Explorer or the like would be a hoot on six meters and I know of half adozen buyers that would order immediately...

That ain't exactly a huge order, but if you build it...they will come.

tnx for the bandwidth...

cleve/wd5bor QRP-ARCI #4017...NORTEX QRP #114...G-QRP#7978

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: ruswhite@netwest.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [2472] QRP+ & 10 watts PEP
Message-ID: <199601072045.NAA07587@saguaro.netwest.com>

Hello All,

I called Index Labs and asked about SSB output power on the QRP+. I was informed that it was set for about 5 watts PEP. I asked if they were considering increasing the output to the QRP maximum of 10 watts PEP and was told that they weren't planning to increase it.

First question: Am I the only one who would like to see 10 watts PEP? if I'm not, then, is anyone else calling Index Labs about increasing the SSB pwr?

Also, are there any 10 watt(SSB PEP) mods out there?

I am under the impression that for CW you can easily run the legal limit and that sounds pretty good to me but I would also like the option of running the limit on SSB. I would prefer that I be the determining factor on my output power. I can appreciate running .95 watts on CW, but in many cases it would be easier on the other person to carry on a qso with 5 watts on CW or 10Watts PEP on SSB.

tnx & 73, Russ AB7JX

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|*****|
| Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG) QRP-ARCI NORCAL NEQRP |
| Phoenix AZ QRP-L #179 ARRL ARRL-VE |
|*****|
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From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: FCNebraska@aol.com
Subject: [2451] Ramsey Catalog
Message-ID: <960107011127_108730540@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Hi All,

Could some one get me the phone# or address to Ramsey so I can get a catalog.

73,
Andy Halbert
KB0TTP

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: AA3MD@aol.com
Subject: [2460] Reviews
Message-ID: <960107102750_34251779@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Gang,
Several weeks ago a list of archived files were published. These files were reviews on various rigs/kits.

I'm a bit unclear on how to locate and retrieve these little gems ... any help would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,
Craig Sterling, AA3MD Washington, D.C. QRP-L #351

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [2474] Split the List?
Message-ID: <9601072306.AA07822@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Well, I have been following along with the comments on this subject today as I get my list in the digest form. I don't know where one can participate in or learn about more associated subjects than here. I guess that means that we should continue as is. I rather equate the QRP-L to my early introduction(mid-50's), and I suspect many others, to conversations on 75, 40 and possibly 160 meters where groups of OT's would be in discussion about antennas, receivers, transmitters, etc., with each night and/or group being a different chapter to learn. I felt that much of my radio and electronic education comes from those early discussions, and I am continuing to learn here and on another list that sometimes has the same question come up - Boatanchors. Not too much technical discussions going on on the bands these days, what with all of the yelling, and other unfortunate happenings, that leaves us here. Too bad for the unfortunates that don't have access to these discussions. Please excuse the bandwidth but I did want to let all those that do bring forth all these subjects know it is appreciated. I may not be interested at that moment, but others certainly are. LB, Jay, and many others with their continuing teaching about antennas, tuners and the like are always welcome on my screen. As are the discussions on glue composites and other chemical discussions by those most knowledgeable in those fields. Thanks again and keep up the discussions. 72/73

--

Ray Colbert, W5XE/V31XE, El Paso, Tx

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: k7yha@ix.netcom.com (Richard H. Arland)
Subject: [2469] T-T Argo 515 Station Sold
Message-ID: <199601071827.KAA28604@ix10.ix.netcom.com>

Sorry Gang:

Would have posted this last night but the local NETCOM mail server was down (something that is happening with great regularity lately).

The Argo 515 was sold within 30 minutes of my posting. Thanks to all that called and e-mailed.

Happy New Year and 72 rich K7YHA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: "J. Skalski" <jskalski@acsu.buffalo.edu>
Subject: [2473] TANDEM MATCH-Wattmeter
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960107171736.2003B-100000@lictor.acsu.buffalo.edu>

I am in the process of building some wattmeters. One of which was from Jan. 1987 QST and also in the 1992 ARRL handbook.

question 1. has anyone laid out a circuit board for it

I don't have a CAD program to do it the "easy" way and I don't want to reinvent the wheel.

2. Does anyone have any suggestions for suitable

Schottky-barrier diodes. The author suggested 1N5711 (which I can't locate) although any RF-detector diode with a low forward voltage drop (less than 300mV) and reverse breakdown voltage greater than 30V could be used

I don't have a diode manual with specs to decode the offerings in DigiKey. Can anyone offer suggestions for suitable diodes.

This looks like it will be accurate meter. I hope to use an LCD readout to match the QRP+.

I also found an excellent way to recalibrate a meter for the W7EL qrp wattmeter. Looks professionally done. But that will be another listing.

73,

Jim N2GO
The Buffalo QRP CONNECTION
ARCI #9013 QRP-L #381
jskalski@acsu.Buffalo.EDU

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [2450] Ten-Tec failure rates, etc.
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9601070029.B8325-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

I have found that they ALL fail about the same; Ten-Tec owners like myself, however, go WAY beyond mere rig owners (no, I don't know why) and tend to enjoy talking to the actual engineers at the plant. I personally get a big kick out of discussing how to improve my rig with the guy who DESIGNED the circuit in the first place. What was on his mind, what was he trying to achieve when he designed it?

Try doing that with any of the Japanese companies...

I also believe that Ten-Tec owners like myself are very eager to call the

factory to discuss even the SLIGHTEST problem due to the availability of the engineers.

Besides, what other MAJOR manufacturer can you call and recommend a product to, and be somewhat assured that your recommendation will be considered? The 20 to 2 meter xverter is being seriously considered for us QRPers.

FINALLY, I accidentally blew the output circuit of my 6m xverter, basic transistors. The local electronics shop, usually the best price around, wanted \$20 for the parts. I called Ten-Tec and including shipping (\$3.00) the total was only \$14. They're also reasonable when it comes to checking out and aligning old radios.

Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19 QRV 40-10/6/2/440
** Yes, you CAN do VHF contests with 25W and omni antennas **
Still stuck at 138 countries confirmed on HF w/dipoles...
72 & 73 from suburban DC 301-549-1022 (h) 301-982-1015 (w)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: VHatley@aol.com
Subject: [2466] TNX fer the all the info on Ten Tec rigs.
Message-ID: <960107130102_108972185@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Just a short note to thank everyone who responded to my questions on Ten-Tec radios. It is obvious there is a great resource of information here on this list. I really appreciate the fact that everyone here is willing to help us newbies out. Thanks again to all who responded.

72
KK5RO
Vernon

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Goran Hosinsky <goran@royac.iac.es>
Subject: [2475] W1FB's QRP NOTEBOOK, was More basic torroid/choke info
Message-ID: <9601072320.AA03050@royac8.royac.iac.es>

Steve, Do you mean that the second edition of the QRP NOTEBOOK has so much new stuff that I should consider it a different book from the first edition?

73 Goran ea8yu hosinsky@royac.iac.es

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Glenn Menard <gmen@bdt.com>
Subject: [2445] Re: data invasion of 40 cw
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960107033309.006beee4@bdt.com>

>disregard and accept my apology...I'm just a little worried about by
>beloved 7040 +/- qrm....72, Dennis K3ETS

According to the QST Contest Corral, this weekend is the ARRL RTTY Roundup
Weekend, Jan 6 thru 7.
There were a lot of RTTY DX spots on the DX Cluster this morning!

Are there any RTTY QRPers on the list?

de Glenn KK6ZC

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: stanb@dial.pipex.com (stan barr)
Subject: [2454] Re: data invasion of 40 cw
Message-ID: <v01530500ad1564023070@[193.130.252.145]>

>40 Meters CW has really taken a challenging twist...at my place in
>Dallas today, the "data" types were all over the "established" cw
>portion of the band, from 7035 through 7047

Some of these stations may be European - our 40m band only goes from 7.000
to 7.100 with phone at the high end, CW at the bottom and data modes from
7.035 to 7.045.

Cheers,

Stan Barr g0clv

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: tdrumm@sparc.isl.net (Tony Drumm)
Subject: [2465] Re: data invasion of 40 cw

Message-ID: <199601071729.LAA17635@sparc.isl.net>

>Are there any RTTY QRPers on the list?
>

Well, I got a PK232 fairly recently and I've played with it a little but my random wire from the tuner in the basement delivers a fair amount of RF which drives my old PC crazy so I've never had a RTTY QSO.

Until yesterday. Decided that the contest would be a good time to look around for RTTY signals since there'd be plenty for the contest. I couldn't stand not trying, though, so I confirmed that transmitting sent the PC out to lunch. Then I decided to just drop the power to minimum (which happens to be just under 5W on my IC-730). Made my first QSO within minutes! On and off operating since then has me at 25 QRP RTTY QSOs which is not a bad showing for me in any contest! All but one of those was on 20m. My wire doesn't work nearly as well on 40 (it's pretty short) and I had poor luck there - just the one QSO. I'm also using the Timewave DSP59+ which I got about a month ago. It seems to do a nice job with digital although the IC730 could use a tighter front end (it has the SSB filter).

72/73.

Tony Drumm

internet: tdrumm@sparc.isl.net

Packet: aa0sm@wd0gnk.#semin.mn.usa.na

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: k7yha@ix.netcom.com (Richard H. Arland)
Subject: [2468] Re: data invasion of 40 cw
Message-ID: <199601071823.KAA29383@ix.ix.netcom.com>

You wrote:

>

>Dennis,

>

>I worry about it, too. Last evening the speaker at my local radio club
>was a "data guy" who told us how great amtor and pactor are for
>sailboats. He says the data band segments are too narrow and he's
>campaigning for more bandwidth to be allocated for data in the band
>plans.

>

>My opinion is that data transmissions are disrupting the bands enough
>as it is!

Dave and Dennis both have a real handle on the situation. Unfortunately, we are not perceived as a threat or competition to the higher powered "Data Dink" stations.

However, I have noticed that 5 watts to a GOOD antenna system can cause them to move around a bit....and get mad.....call several others of their ilk and come back on frequency with a vengeance....(as witnessed on 14.060 MHz during the Fall QRP QSO Party last year).

I think we need to stand firm, work on the QRP frequencies, not be intimidated by the Data Dinks and take our turf back.

Now, before I get flamed by the ultra-liberal, doo-gooders who read this list, let's look at a few facts:

1. Nobody owns any frequency. First come, first served. Therefore, since QRP has been around longer than the latest craze of Amtor and Pactor, even RTTY, we have a claim to these frequencies by default. We must, as a group, insure that we are "on frequency" the majority of the time in order to fend off the onslaught of Data Dinks.
2. 5 watts can definately mess up the Data Dink's ACKS & NACKS. Be resolute and stick to your guns (er, watts) and keep "ditting and dahing" on the recognized QRP frequencies.
3. Don't give in to peer pressue, doo-gooder types, or "why can't just all get along" types. You better know that the Data Dinks won't hesitate to clobber any QRP signal if it gets in their way!
4. By virtue of the fact that we CHOOSE to run low power, we are looked upon by many in the Ham Radio Fraternity as kooks, crazies, wierdos, and easy marks. Many QRO types in the local club absolutely HATE me, personally. Why, because I continually do things with only a fraction of the output power they use and they are such poor operators and have such large investments in their stations that they cannot understand the problem lies within themselves and not some external force.
5. Now is the time to unite, stick to our guns (er, QRP transmitters) and show the Data Dinks that we will not be taken lightly, and we are a major facet of Amateur Radio.

Now, let's go out and win one for the Gipper!

72 es 73 rich K7YHA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Duane Anderson <kj7ho@utah-inter.net>
Subject: [2470] Re: data invasion of 40 cw
Message-ID: <30F037D7.1E57@utah-inter.net>

Richard H. Arland wrote:

>

> However, I have noticed that 5 watts to a GOOD antenna system can cause
> them to move around a bit.....and get mad.....call several others of
> their ilk and come back on frequency with a vengeance....(as witnessed
> on 14.060 MHz during the Fall QRP QSO Party last year).

What do you mean, "last year". Here it is Sunday afternoon and I'm
tuning around on 14.060 listening for anybody and all I can hear is RTTY
and I'm sure its not 5 watts!!! About made me tear off my headphones.
That is happening now and its 20:10 utc on 1/7/96.

What a speech, Rich, it almost makes you wanna rush out onto the field,
er..shack, and burn up the airwaves. I'm afraid my 3 watts on 20 meters
wont burn up anything, though. But it was inspiring, Rich.

72, de Duane, KJ7HO
WIMU96 Chairman
QRP-L #164
ARCI #9033

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Ed DeBuvitz <edeb@indirect.com>
Subject: [2478] Re: data invasion of 40 cw
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD/.3.91.960107193900.18206A-100000@bud.indirect.com>

On Sat, 6 Jan 1996, W. Dennis Zeares wrote:

> 40 Meters CW has really taken a challenging twist...at my place in
> Dallas today, the "data" types were all over the "established" cw

Not sure if it's a trend but this weekend was the ARRL RTTY contest. They
tend to wander during these contests.
Ed W5TTE

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Steve Miller <kg7pv@teleport.com>
Subject: [2463] Re: More basic torroid/choke info
Message-ID: <199601071654.IAA22077@desiree.teleport.com>

At 03:56 PM 1/7/96 +0100, you wrote:

>
>Hello!
>
>Your reading guide sounds good - but what is the second QRP NOTEBOOK? I
>have the first one (1986) W1FB Qrp notebook, but I cannot finde the
>Qrp notebook #2 in the ARRL catalogue. Please clarify, perhaps also for
>the list, the reading suggestions should be good for all newcomers.

>
>Saludos!
>Goran ea8yu hosinsky@royac.iac.es
>

W1FB wrote two QRP Notebooks. The one you have is the first, the second is
"W1FB'S QRP NOTEBOOK", ARRL # 3657. It is listed in my current QST catalog
of ARRL publications. Good Reading! 73
Steve Miller KG7PV
Norcal # 308, QRP-L #109

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nflld.com>
Subject: [2457] Re: NOTICE KIT MAKERS
Message-ID: <199601071505.LAA17875@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Hi Cleve,

In Dave Benson's NN1G write-up in the latest New England QRP Club 72 and
Northern California QRP Club QRPP newsletters his new Green Mountain single
board qrp series of transceivers may be a candidate for 6 meter conversion.
He did mention that in his article. I do think it is going to require some
users to try some mods themselves using his GM design since I think Dave is
going to have his hands full selling his great little rig.

Good luck Cleve - keep us posted.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

PS: Maybe one of the regional QRP clubs could make it a project to convert

an existing design to 6 meters to build up some local 6 meter activity.
There may be a number of good candidate rigs out there to try this on.

At 00:20 1/7/96 EST, you wrote:

>Hey you guys how about a kit for 6 meters.

>

>I just bet a NN1G or OHR Explorer or the like would be a hoot on six meters
>and I know of half adozen buyers that would order immediately...

>

>That ain't exactly a huge order, but if you build it...they will come.

>

>tnx for the bandwidth...

>

>cleve/wd5bor QRP-ARCI #4017...NORTEX QRP #114...G-QRP#7978

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>

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| Bob Gobrick - VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca                |
|                  bgobrick@terra.nlnet.nf.ca                  |
| Compuserve:    70466.1405@compuserve.com                     |
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996

From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)

Subject: [2462] Re: NOTICE KIT MAKERS

Message-ID: <199601071608.JAA04914@lynx.csn.net>

My TenTec 6M transverter kit is awfully hard to beat and have driven it
with all my QRP rigs. Currently it is on the Plus.

72, Bob KI0G

>

QBF? ZUE

Bob Cutter,Glenwood Springs, CO

KI0G

bcutter@teal.csn.net

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [2459] Re: Oh no! Not that guy again! VLF radios, caves & SPRAT
Message-ID: <199601071505.LAA17878@public.compuser.com>

Hi Nils,

Well the reason why you haven't heard much (or maybe you have been systematically deprogrammed) about this "nature radio" (oxymoron) cave radio stuff is that this is HIGHLY TOP SECRET CLASSIFIED INFORMATION by all the world's naval forces.

I've heard some rumors (maybe it was in Wayne Green's W2NSD column) about massive underground ground rod antennas pumping far-from-QRP low rumble radio frequencies into the earth's mantle in the hopes of finding those "Red October" submarines and weird fish life. I'm not sure if that was the gist of this top secret project or was it to agitate every worm in the world so when anglers went fishing they'd have some real "live-wire" bait...

Anyway you bring to mind a DXexpedition (I think it may have even been QRP) where a bunch of hams in a similar mental state as yours (only kidding) set up shop at the bottom of Death Valley so they could claim operation from the lowest of depths (groundwise). Not sure how they did and maybe it may take LB to run some Elnecc computer program to figure out if they could make contact with China..

Is it the new year yet....

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 21:13 1/6/96 EST, you wrote:

> But all this talk

>of VLF and "nature radio" and now John's cave radio has me thinking

>that I ain't quite all that psychotic yet.

>

>Anyone seen or remember this stuff? I'd really like a witness before my

>release hearing next month. I mean, it's starting to look like I've

>dream this all before. Well, everything except those signals that I

>get from the lights in the morning when I feed the fish that come out

>of the radio by the box of cereal.

>I gotta go. The orderlies are coming and it's time for tapioca anyway.

>

>73
>Nils
>WB8IJN
>

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-----  
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |  
| QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |  
| Internet:      rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca                |  
|                  bgobrick@terra.nlnet.nf.ca                  |  
| Compuserve:    70466.1405@compuserve.com                     |  
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: JessQRP@aol.com
Subject: [2456] Re: OHR 400 "Narrow" Filtering.
Message-ID: <960107093347_108858033@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Well, the winters up there are long! I have not done a quantitative study on the drift of the 400. I only notice that when I turn it on and let it sit for the first few minutes (10-15) that the freq counter that I have hooked up to the L0 out drifts down about 1-200 hertz. After that I think that it is pretty stable. Compared to my Gary Breed 30 meter rig, the thing is stable as a rock! I just mad an antenna change here to please the XYL. I took down the R 7 and all of the associated wires (30 meter dipole, 40 meter dipole, 30 meter half square, 80 meter inverted L) and put up a Gap Titan. It still has a problem in that it is not resonant on most of the bands and that the problem is with the 80 meter cap that is in the top of the antenna. It has been about 5 degrees here the last few days and I have not had the gumption to go out in the cold and mess with it. I have a new cap coming from Gap and as soon as that gets here and I get the time to fix the antenna, hopefully my on air time will increase. I took the 400 to the CQC meeting today, and all of the people there were very impressed with the rig. I had my small Rockloop antenna in the room and a battery. During the course of the meeting, I was listening to 20 meter CW and heard a CQ QRP at 14060 and did not catch the call. I answered him with the loop sitting on the floor in a brick library and at least got a QRZ? AGN? from him! I figure that the next award that I will go for is the worked all library QRP meetings award!

I cannot say enough about the rig and the choice of bands. I know that dick was thinking about changing the bands that are offered with the rig to something else, but as far as I am concerned the choices were perfect. Wouldn't it be great though if it just had one more band like 17 meters. I think that my favorite bands for QRP CW are 17, 30 and 40. If I had just one band that I could work it would be 40. I am anxious to get the filter mod and hiss mods installed as I think that those would be very worthwhile. As far as my antenna goes, I will just have to wait until the caps come in from Gap and

the weather cooperates a little more.

Cascade will be going down the road to a new owner soon, so I took it to the meeting so that some folks could see one before it goes. As far as I know I am the only one in the Denver metro area that built one as most of the club members are CW ops. I know that personally as far as QRP goes, I am just not a SSB op.

Best for now and keep me posted on the KC-1 work...

Jess N0TFI

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Duane Anderson <kj7ho@utah-inter.net>
Subject: [2453] Re: Ramsey Catalog
Message-ID: <30EF7CB6.40EB@utah-inter.net>

FCNebraska@aol.com wrote:

>
> Hi All,
>
> Could some one get me the phone# or address to Ramsey so I can get a
> catalog.
>
> 73,
> Andy Halbert
> KB0TTPAndy:
The phone # for Ramsey Kits is (716)924-4560 and their address:
Ramsey Electronics, Inc.
793 Canning Parkway
Victor, New York 14564

72, de Duane, KJ7HO
QRP-L #164
ARCI #9033

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: dub@iAmerica.net (j w thornton)
Subject: [2464] Re Ten Tec Rigs:
Message-ID: <199601071718.LAA10702@ns2.iAmerica.net>

N9DD Tom, after bashing Ten Tec rigs and service, asks: Am I crazy? Well I am not sure I would go that far Tom, but I would say that perhaps your

statements do not reflect use of overly good judgement. Reminds me of one stepping into a Bullfighting ring, waving a red flag and calling, "here Toro, Toro Toro". And at a time when we are already besieged with complaints of too many postings. Oh well!!

Ten Tec does indeed offer a fine service facility, with prompt and reasonable service. I have called and talked to a service technician, and had him tell me just where to look for a particular problem, thus avoiding my sending a rig in. I have also sent in several for repairs with very satisfactory results. I currently own 5 of the older ten tec rigs, and cannot pass up a ten tec at a ham fest with a bargain price on it, and needless to say I have more than a few times bought somebody else's problems, and had to be bailed out by Ten Tec.

Tom further states that he has not talked to unhappy Kenwood owners. I have, but posting such would do nothing but bring more flames, as each Mfr. has its own loyal following. It is my feeling that they are all making a fine bunch of radios today, but none are totally without weaknesses, as well as strengths. It is up to me to decide which strengths impress me most and which weaknesses I can live with. I used your TS-520 for 11 years and found it to be a fine, dependable rig, albeit not without shortcomings.

Bob Goebrick states that Ten Tec is not an innovative Company, and I would have to agree that they do not currently offer the bells and whistles of most of the top end of the imports. (nor price either). I do seem to recall, however, that Ten Tec was one of the first to offer solid state, broadbanded rigs, and their QSK is still unmatched by any imports. All my rigs are Corsair II or older, so cannot comment on the new crop of goodies, either Ten Tec or import.

I readily admit to being fanatical about radios, and if it dont say Ten Tec on it, I dont use it (cept homebrew of course), but this "MY RADIO'S BETTER'N YOURS", attitude can do nothing but fan the controversy, and we already have too much of that. Better, we try to be tolerant of others choices and get along.

"72" Dub WA5YFY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: N9DD@aol.com
Subject: [2447] Re: Ten-Tec Rigs
Message-ID: <960106224922_85121110@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Whenever I talk to someone with a Ten-Tec rig, they always rave about the great service department they have. After I heard this 7 or 8 times it

finally hit me... How do they know? It became obvious to me that EVERY Ten-Tec owner I know has had to send their rig in for service! I'm sure there are some out there who haven't had to send their rig in or have been able to fix their radios themselves, but the numbers don't look too good from what I've seen.

A couple years back I mentioned the same thing to a long-time Ten-Tec rig owner (a friend of Ten-Tec's founder) after he told me he had to send his rig in for replacement of a relay. He said "You can't complain about a simple failure of a mechanical part!". Later I thought about the fact that my Kenwood TS-520's relay has been clicking along for over 20 years. I'm sure there are some of unhappy Kenwood owners out there but I haven't heard from many.

Do the rest of you have any ideas on the reliability of different brands of commercial rigs? Am I crazy, or do I just know a bunch of unlucky hams?

73,

Tom N9DD QRP-L #32
South Bend, IN

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>
Subject: [2448] Re: Ten-Tec Rigs
Message-ID: <4664.820989688@safety.ics.uci.edu>

> Whenever I talk to someone with a Ten-Tec rig, they always rave about the
> great service department they have. After I heard this 7 or 8 times it
> finally hit me... How do they know? It became obvious to me that EVERY

The reason many of them know is that they call up with a question about modifying the rig to make it just the way they might like.... and Ten Tec gives you an engineer on the phone for 20 minutes or more just to take you through the possibilities! Try to do THAT with Kenwood, Icom or Yaesu. And, yes, the few times I have needed Ten Tec service it has been first class, fast, and fair.

> Ten-Tec owner I know has had to send their rig in for service! I'm sure there

That is not true among the many, many Ten Tec owners I know. In my experience with Japanese and Ten Tec gear, there is no more incidence of failure among the Ten Tecs that I can tell at all. I have had a bunch of experience with them all for the past 27 years.

> in for replacement of a relay. He said "You can't complain about a simple

> failure of a mechanical part!". Later I thought about the fact that my
> Kenwood TS-520's relay has been clicking along for over 20 years. I'm sure

This is a nice anecdote, but there are many, as you mention, on both sides. And, I am not an unhappy Kenwood owner, but have had plenty of simple mechanical failures with my Kenwoods (including the 520, 530, 430, 440 and 940 in my shack) and fewer, overall with my Ten Tecs (including the OMNI-D, Triton IV, Corsair I and II, and OMNI VI). But, that is just another anecdote, and means nothing unless you want to do a large controlled study.

And, yes, you can't complain about the failure of a mechanical part. My Kenwood 440 has had just such a failure recently (in much less than 20 years), and I don't hold it against their quality control at Kenwood.

> Do the rest of you have any ideas on the reliability of different brands of
> commercial rigs? Am I crazy, or do I just know a bunch of unlucky hams?

You pay too much attention to anecdotes, maybe. If you are really interested, maybe you should log ALL the rigs you encounter and the relative reliability noted by the owner, instead of noting only the problems....ask everyone. I suspect a different picture emerges this way, but still not a complete one.

It would be really great if the ARRL had the courage to tackle this problem. Would they dare to do a real live study on rig reliability and publish the results (with the resultant threat to advertising?) They do much better in QST than CQ or 73 in reviewing rigs, I must admit, but they fall far short of real critical reviews in my opinion.

This list has folks who give honest reviews. QRP rigs sure get the shakedown among them.

Clark
WA3JPG

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfl.com>
Subject: [2458] Re: Ten-Tec Rigs
Message-ID: <199601071505.LAA17894@public.compuser.net>

Hi Tom and QRP-L gang,

I think what is more of the basic question you ask is not that a rig needs service but how do the service departments rate? I feel Ten Tec has a

reputation as a good and fairly priced service center (maybe the price is based on being in Tennessee and not affected by the high cost West Coast service labor rates). Service also extends into customer service over the telephone/internet. Ten Tec is ok over the phone although I have to admit that I've spent time on the phone getting their service folks up to speed on an Argosy II problem etc. Over on the Compuserve Hamnet forum there is always a long winded debate about Icom vs Kenwood vs Yaesu service (yes those rigs get sent into service). Icom has an on-line Compuserve forum service rep which I find to be first class. I haven't checked in recently, but Kenwood has their own Cal BBS which I've found not to be helpful and finally as far as I know Yaesu only has telephone service (like Ten Tec). If you want service then your best bet is the group of QRP kit vendors out there - Small Wonder Labs, Wilderness Radio, S&S Engineering, Oak Hills Research, Kanga, etc to name a few. I've also had decent service responses from Index Labs and MFJ (if you get the right person to talk to). Also MFJ offers a free copy of their manuals which I have always found to be helpful in my buying decisions.

The issue of reliability - I only have limited experiences, but I've owned the Ten Tec Argonaut, Argosy and early Omni rigs, just about all Icoms from the IC-701 on, and a good smattering of Kenwood and Yaesu rigs. In my opinion (and I'll have to put my hyper flame shields up on this) I don't think (yes this is not qualitative since I don't own an Omni VI or Paragon) the Ten Tec rigs compare in technical innovation, quality and value to the Japanese rigs. Even back in the hay days of US rigs (Drake being the last big pull-out) Ten Tec was not known for innovative designs. I guess this really hit home to me when Ten Tec came out with the Scout, which turned out to be a rehashed Argosy II (one of their better rigs which I still own). They missed the boat on not getting the power drain down using LCD's instead of an LED display and a lot of other things they could have done. Ten Tec just does not have the manufacturing process the Japanese have. Unlike the North American and European car industry, I don't know if the world will catch up to the Japanese in this area - do we really think that Herb Johnson is going to make it with his new \$800 single VFO Atlas 400X (which is basically a rehash of the 20 year old 210X).

So the way I see it, North America and Europe seem to have captured the "cottage market" of excellent little ham radio kits and small rigs - why even the Japanese hams are buying the MFJ, Index Labs, and kits since they have no home market (yet). For the big stuff we have to give credit to the Japanese innovation to get the new bells and whistle items into manufacturing and out to the consumer. My Icom IC-706 "do everything rig" attests to how we (well let's say I) are creatures of consumerism. That's why I balance my hobby interests with building nice little QRP kits and I enjoy both..

Sorry didn't mean to make this a "State of the Economy" address (it is January isn't it) but just a little pitch for all to build some qrp kits -

it's where the "action" is and also where we as a group are taking the lead
- there are changing dynamics in this hobby and we are part of the
"vanguard" movement.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 22:50 1/6/96 EST, you wrote:

>Do the rest of you have any ideas on the reliability of different brands of
>commercial rigs? Am I crazy, or do I just know a bunch of unlucky hams?

>

>73,

>

>Tom N9DD QRP-L #32

>South Bend, IN

>

>

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-----
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca                |
|                  bgobrick@terra.nl.net.nf.ca                 |
| Compuserve:    70466.1405@compuserve.com                     |
|-----
```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996

From: "C. J. Hawley Jr." <hawley@aries.scs.uiuc.edu>

Subject: [2461] Re: Ten-Tec Rigs

Message-ID: <30EFE86F.471F@aries.scs.uiuc.edu>

Robert J. Gobrick wrote:

snip

> telephone/internet. Ten Tec is ok over the phone although I have to admit
> that I've spent time on the phone getting their service folks up to speed on
> an Argosy II problem etc. Over on the Compuserve Hamnet forum there is

snip

> The issue of reliability - I only have limited experiences, but I've owned
> the Ten Tec Argonaut, Argosy and early Omni rigs, just about all Icoms from
> the IC-701 on, and a good smattering of Kenwood and Yaesu rigs. In my
> opinion (and I'll have to put my hyper flame shields up on this) I don't

> think (yes this is not qualitative since I don't own an Omni VI or Paragon)
> the Ten Tec rigs compare in technical innovation, quality and value to the
> Japanese rigs. Even back in the hay days of US rigs (Drake being the last
> big pull-out) Ten Tec was not known for innovative designs. I guess this
> really hit home to me when Ten Tec came out with the Scout, which turned out
> to be a rehashed Argosy II (one of their better rigs which I still own).
> They missed the boat on not getting the power drain down using LCD's instead
> of an LED display and a lot of other things they could have done. Ten Tec
> just does not have the manufacturing process the Japanese have. Unlike the
>snip

I like Ten-Tec but it seems that you have to have a different set of rules to own their stuff. I have the auto tuner which has an EEPROM which "fills up" every 6 months and I have to buy a new one for \$10 or so (they advised me to install a socket). It also does not adjust itself to the antenna it is set to on turn on. Ten-Tec said that it should and then added "well just switch it to another ant and back". So I guess it shouldn't and they lie a little. Well, the point is that they are over their heads when it comes to being able to revise and further develop their products. I think they are nice people but don't seem to have the resources to fix their mistakes. Or at least not in a timely fashion. This isn't qrp, but I have been dying to tell someone this stuff. Also, I would like to buy a Scout but it is said that it drifts in frequency because of the innovative circuit that is supposed to keep it on frequency. Sounds like a lot of fun on cw.

Chuck, KE9UW

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Rick Blank <rblank@legend.txdirect.net>
Subject: [2467] Re: Ten-Tec Rigs
Message-ID: <199601071717.LAA03339@legend.txdirect.net>

At 10:50 PM 1/6/96 EST, you wrote:

>Whenever I talk to someone with a Ten-Tec rig, they always rave about the
>great service department they have. After I heard this 7 or 8 times it
>finally hit me... How do they know? It became obvious to me that EVERY
>Ten-Tec owner I know has had to send their rig in for service! I'm sure there
>are some out there who haven't had to send their rig in or have been able to
>fix their radios themselves, but the numbers don't look too good from what
>I've seen.

>

>A couple years back I mentioned the same thing to a long-time Ten-Tec rig
>owner (a friend of Ten-Tec's founder) after he told me he had to send his rig
>in for replacement of a relay. He said "You can't complain about a simple
>failure of a mechanical part!". Later I thought about the fact that my
>Kenwood TS-520's relay has been clicking along for over 20 years. I'm sure

>there are some of unhappy Kenwood owners out there but I haven't heard from
>many.

>

>Do the rest of you have any ideas on the reliability of different brands of
>commercial rigs? Am I crazy, or do I just know a bunch of unlucky hams?

>

>73,

>

>Tom N9DD QRP-L #32

>South Bend, IN

>

I have had several Ten-Tec rigs over the years, and also had many "rice boxes" and from what I have seen, one is just about as durable as another....the two "worst" repairs that I had were on a Yaesu FT-980 that ended up spending nearly six months out at the factory "spa" in California for multiple system failures and

an Icom R-71A that had a front end problem and cost me an arm and a leg to get repaired. While the factory service agencies were professional and courteous, the charges were rather steep. I hesitate to think what would happen if I had to send my FT-990 off for any kind of repair!

Ten-Tec in comparison, has very reasonable repair rates....I have bought TT rigs in estate sales and at hamfests and sent them to TT to be repaired. Ten-Tec's service department has been friendly and, more importantly, fair on anything I have had them do.

Perhaps the reason so many folks send their rigs back to the factory is because of :

- a: Ten-Tec's reasonable rates
- b: Turnaround time is short
- c: Upgrades performed at the factory rarely cost much
- d: Having the best there is work on your radio
- e: Having someone to talk to that really knows the radios

I currently have two Ten-Tecs, the OMNI-V and a Argosy 525D that were both purchased second-hand and are flawless performers. In the not too distant future

I plan to send the OMNI back to TT to have them align and update the unit, not because the rig has any problems, just because I want to!

Just my two cents worth!

Rick Blank, KI5SL
2223 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78212

rblank@txdirect.net
KI5SL@K3WGF.STX.USA.NOAM
AMSAT NA#26195

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>
Subject: [2471] Re: Ten-Tec Rigs
Message-ID: <15230.821045937@safety.ics.uci.edu>

> have no home market (yet). For the big stuff we have to give credit to the
> Japanese innovation to get the new bells and whistle items into
> manufacturing and out to the consumer. My Icom IC-706 "do everything rig"
> attests to how we (well let's say I) are creatures of consumerism. That's
> why I balance my hobby interests with building nice little QRP kits and I
> enjoy both..

Hmmmm....a quick comment. Ten Tec has been quite innovative, but not
as good at slickness of interface and slick advertising. The Triton
IV was a great little solid state rig (still widely used) back in the days
when Kenwood was still stuck to tubes. I recall buying one of the first
Triton IV's and constantly had to deal with the guys with the Kenwood
520's who said "your radio will blow up, transistors can't hack it..."
etc. It was amazing.

The other large innovation that seems to be ignored widely is that Ten
Tec was the first to really use DSP in their radio...the OMNI VI.
Came out in 92? 93? but had digital auto notch filter (before the
Timewaves and others, and the Japanese are just now coming out with
auto notch filters) - quite a nice feature for SSB. Now, Ten Tec
needs to take the next step of course, but I hope it is better than
the latest "true IF" DSP down in the near audio range after 4 other
stages of IF :-(....

If you like receivers to receive weak signals, I suspect a comparison
with the high end Japanese rigs and the OMNI VI will impress you. And
the OMNI is cheaper. (Hey, but if you like auto tuners and built in
power supplies and, and....well, Ten Tec doesn't do that, its true.)

Clark
WA3JPG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 7 21:18:51 1996
From: JDuffy@aol.com
Subject: [2476] Re: Ten-Tec Rigs
Message-ID: <960107194041_34697607@mail02.mail.aol.com>

I own a Ten Tec rig and have never sent it in for repair. In fact, I have

never known a Tec-Tec owner that had to send their rig back. Their have been people on some of the newsgroups that have sent their rigs in for repair, alignment, etc., and all talk about the fantastic service.

On the other hand, the Japanese rigs that I have owned have had to go back several times for one thing or another (dead bands, failed output transistors, etc.) and the service has taken an unusually long time.

I'll take a Ten-Tec over any rice box.

Regards,

Duffy - WB8NUT